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CHICO MAN SENTENCED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that KEVIN ICKES, 41, of Chico, California, was sentenced today to 20 years in prison for having distributed and possessed images depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. ICKES had pleaded guilty in October of last year to 3 counts of distributing, and 1 count of possessing images depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. ICKES was sentenced today by Senior United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton who also ordered that ICKES serve 10 years of supervised release following his release from federal prison.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by Special Agents from the Sacramento office of the Department of Homeland Security, division of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, officers from the Butte County Sheriff's Department, and the Butte County District Attorney's Office.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Laurel White, who prosecuted the case, evidence showed that in September, November and again in December, 2003, ICKES distributed 6 images depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct to an Internet website called Online Sharing Community. It was later learned that ICKES was a registered sex offender, having been

convicted on or about August 28, 1992, in Placer County, of two counts of oral copulation of a person under the age of 16, in violation of California Penal Code § 288a(b)(2).

A search warrant was obtained for ICKES' Chico residence and served on May 27, 2004. Agents seized a computer and numerous computer disks which were found to contain more than 600 still images and videos depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Agents also found copies of the images depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, bearing the same file names, which ICKES had distributed to the internet website in late 2003. ICKES admitted to having child pornography images and videos on his computer and admitted uploading the images to the website.

ICKES also faces state charges filed on July 8, 2004 by the Butte County District Attorney. Among the state charges are allegations ICKES engaged in unlawful sexual conduct with a minor under the age of 16.

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